

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1, 4-5, 23-24, 49-52 and 57-66.

The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Presented) The bacteriophage deposited as ATCC #PTA-5075.
- 3-6. (Canceled)
7. (Original) A method for purifying a bacteriophage which is lytic for *Methylobacterium* species comprising the steps of:
 - a) obtaining bacteriophage from a sample that has been in contact with plant matter;
 - b) plating the bacteriophage onto a medium comprising at least one *Methylobacterium* species derived from a plant or seeds of a plant;
 - c) collecting plaques formed in the *Methylobacterium*-containing medium; and
 - d) purifying the isolated plaques.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein steps b-d are repeated with the product of step (d) until a virulent bacteriophage preparation is obtained.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the *Methylobacterium* species is a PPFM.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the PPFM is selected from the group consisting of *M. mesophilicum*, *M. organophilum* and *M. extorquens* and combinations thereof.

11-66. (Cancelled)